

North in Cold Spring, Minnesota, as the "Officer Tommy Decker Memorial Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### RICHARD K. SALICK POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 451) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 500 North Brevard Avenue in Cocoa Beach, Florida, as the "Richard K. Salick Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### LONDON FALLEN VETERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE

The bill (H.R. 1391) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 25 South Oak Street in London, Ohio, as the "London Fallen Veterans Memorial Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### CAPTAIN HERBERT JOHNSON ME- MORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3085) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3349 West 111th Street in Chicago, Illinois, as the "Captain Herbert Johnson Memorial Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### CYNTHIA JENKINS POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 3957) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 218-10 Merrick Boulevard in Springfield Gardens, New York, as the "Cynthia Jenkins Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### MASTER SERGEANT SHAWN T. HANNON, MASTER SERGEANT JEFFREY J. RIECK AND VET- ERANS MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4189) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4000 Leap Road in Hilliard, Ohio, as the "Master Sergeant Shawn T. Hannon, Master Sergeant Jeffrey J. Rieck and Veterans Memorial Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### CORPORAL JUAN MARIEL ALCANTARA POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 4443) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 90 Vermilyea Avenue in New York, New York, as the "Corporal Juan Mariel Alcantara Post Office Building," was ordered to a third

reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### LANCE CORPORAL WESLEY G. DA- VIDS AND CAPTAIN NICHOLAS J. ROZANSKI MEMORIAL POST OF- FICE

The bill (H.R. 4919) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 715 Shawan Falls Drive in Dublin, Ohio, as the "Lance Corporal Wesley G. Davids and Captain Nicholas J. Rozanski Memorial Post Office," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### PHILMORE GRAHAM POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (H.R. 5106) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Admiral Callaghan Lane in Vallejo, California, as the "Philmore Graham Post Office Building," was ordered to a third reading, was read the third time, and passed.

#### JAMES L. OBERSTAR MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING

The bill (S. 2523) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW, in Chisholm, Minnesota, as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building," was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, was read the third time, and passed, as follows:

S. 2523

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. JAMES L. OBERSTAR MEMORIAL POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 14 3rd Avenue, NW., in Chisholm, Minnesota, shall be known and designated as the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "James L. Oberstar Memorial Post Office Building".

#### INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to the consideration of Calendar No. 576, S. Res. 540.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the resolution by title.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 540) recognizing September 15, 2014, as the International Day of Democracy, affirming the role of civil society as a cornerstone of democracy, and encouraging all governments to stand with civil society in the face of mounting restrictions on civil society organizations.

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. BLUMENTHAL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the reso-

lution be agreed to, the preamble be agreed to, and the motions to reconsider be laid upon the table with no intervening action or debate.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The resolution (S. Res. 540) was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution, with its preamble, is as follows:

#### S. RES. 540

Whereas in 2007, September 15 of each year was established by the United Nations as the International Day of Democracy, a day set aside to review the state of democracy in the world;

Whereas democracy is a means of government that makes manifest the free exercise of certain inalienable rights, among them being the freedom of assembly, the freedom of association, the freedom of the press, and the freedom of speech;

Whereas democracy allows for participatory governance, mobilizing citizens to strive for their version of the good and instilling hope that the aspirations of the people may one day be realized;

Whereas an analysis of 84 independent studies shows that democracy has a favorable impact on the formation of human capital, the rate of inflation, the level of economic freedom, and the stability of political institutions;

Whereas democracy promotes tolerance and respect by recognizing the human dignity of all people and is necessary to the full realization of the values enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights;

Whereas the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) defines "civil society" as associations around which society voluntarily organizes itself and which represent a wide range of interests and ties, including community-based organizations, indigenous peoples' organizations, and non-government organizations (NGOs);

Whereas a vibrant civil society is an essential element of democratic societies and plays a key role in providing transparency, ensuring the legitimacy of elections, advocating for marginalized groups, and making clear the will of the people;

Whereas, since 2012, the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law has identified 69 new restrictive measures in over 50 countries hindering the ability of civil society organizations (CSOs) to freely operate;

Whereas of the 98 countries for which data is available, research presented in a 2013 article for the Journal of Democracy explains that 12 prohibit and 39 restrict foreign funding of domestic NGOs;

Whereas in 2000, the Community of Democracies was founded "to bring together governments, civil society, and the private sector in the pursuit of a common goal: supporting democratic rules and strengthening democratic norms and institutions around the world";

Whereas in 2011, the United States joined other like-minded governments to establish the "Lifeline: Embattled Civil Society Organizations Fund" to provide small grants to CSOs for immediate needs and to support short-term advocacy projects;

Whereas, through the Open Government Partnership, 63 countries have committed to protecting the ability of CSOs to operate in a manner that is consistent with the rights to freedom of expression, association, and opinion;